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These measures reduce the weevils to such small numbers that the cotton is enabled to set a good crop of bolls before the weevils again become abundant. Where this method of control has been tried the past year practically as much cotton has been harvested as would have been gathered were no weevils present.

The principle underlying this method of control is that towards which the best practice in economic entomology is steadily tending, viz., a very thoro cleanup of the insect and hence less need of frequent repetition, as near an approach to eradication as is practicable rather than temporary palliatives. This method of dealing with the boll weevil parallels quite closely the latest recommendations for the control of the curculio in peaches and plums, i. e., to pick up and destroy the drops with their contained larvae as well as poisoning the adults.

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Farmers' Bulletin 950, by Philip Luginbill, treats of the Southern Corn Rootworm (*Diabrotica 12-punctata*). Altho a common insect in Florida, this beetle is with us not a serious pest of corn. In the extreme northern part of the state it takes a small percentage of the young corn. The author recommends planting in late April to escape damage from this insect. This beetle is very common in oat fields about Gainesville from January to March.

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Dr. H. S. Davis, until a year ago head of the department of zoology in the University, is the author of "A New Bacterial Disease of Fresh Water Fishes"—Document 924, U. S. Bureau of Fisheries.

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Carl B. James, Horticulturist for the L. and N. Ry., has recently published a very attractive and valuable bulletin on the satsuma orange.

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### THE SCOLDING BUTTERFLY

Dear Friends of the Entomological Society:

When a person arrives in a new country, the first things that attract his attention are the objects and customs to which he is not accustomed in his own country. So it was with me when I

arrived in Brazil. I saw hundreds of interesting and important things that the average Brazilian, who has lived among them always, "never saw". Brazil, as you know, is noted for its magnificent butterflies and gigantic insects of various orders. Some of the unusual insects are credited with being extremely venomous. I was told of one insect so venomous that if it lights on the trunk of a tree, the tree dies from the effects. Entomologists, being extremely innocent, capture these insects with impunity. The thing I want to tell you about today is the Scolding Butterfly, *Ageronia feronia*, L.

My friends in Florida will naturally think that I have gone "louco" with the heat. But remember that in Brazil we are now in mid winter, and some mornings the weather is dreadfully cold (?). At least my Brazilian friends say that it is. And the Centigrade thermometer says that the temperature is some seven or eight degrees above zero. Now what I was going to tell you about is the butterfly that has a voice. I am sending you a photograph that represents her sitting on a palm tree. I know that it is a female which does the talking because the voice is high keyed and staccato. A male never could get up so much energy.

The scolding is done probably with organs similar to those used by crickets or katydids. The sound is not quite as strong as that of the big katydids nor of the big black cricket. Organs similar to those possessed by these insects are located near the base of the wings. They make this snapping noise only when on the wing. Sometimes they scold their mate and sometimes they scold the entomologist who is passing by.

Another peculiarity of this species is that it looks very much like the lichens that inhabit tree trunks. The photograph I enclose you brings out this peculiarity very strikingly.

Now if there is any entomologist present who doubts the correctness of these observations, let him look up Holland and also Sharp, who likewise became affected with the Brazilian heat.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) P. H. ROLFS.

Vicosa, E. F. Leopoldina,  
Minas Geraes, Brazil.  
July 27, 1922.